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ABSTRACT

This book has the following aims: to establish what a new culture of lifelong learning is; to see why it must be introduced; to explore what the new learning culture will entail; and to present the resourcing systems needed to carry it through. The discussion includes ethical as well as economic viewpoints. Starting from a cradle-to-grave definition of lifelong learning, it reviews the current learning culture in terms of specific principles, concluding that there has to be a fresh start, that a major shift in learning culture involving systems changes to induce the necessary cultural shift should take place. Economic prosperity and social coherence and inclusion are posited to be at the heart of this change, with action at three levels needed to achieve this goal: an effective overall strategy, radical changes in infrastructure, and new, more flexible approaches by suppliers in the learning marketplace. Examined are ways of thinking about learning processes, the time frames for learning, spaces and communications, and financial structures. Finally, suggestions are made for action at all three levels, without regard to resource constraints and political resistance. The book contains 167 references. (KC)

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